NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received <u>only</u> in the office of the Purchasing Division at the Lafayette Consolidated Government Building, located at 705 West University Avenue, Lafayette, Louisiana, until 10:00 a.m. (Central Time) on the <u>20st</u> day of <u>September</u>, <u>2005</u> for the following:

DIAPHRAGM GRADE CAUSTIC SODA

and will, shortly thereafter, be opened and read aloud in the Council Conference Room located at 705 West University Avenue, Lafayette, LA. Bids received after the above specified time for opening shall not be considered and shall be returned unopened to the sender.

Copies of the specifications are available at the Purchasing Office located at 705 West University Avenue, Lafayette, LA 70506. Telephone number (337) 291-8263 (Attn: Angie). Plans and specifications shall be available until twenty-four (24) hours before the bid opening date.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond payable to the Lafayette Consolidated Government, the amount of which shall be five percent (5%) of the base bid plus additive alternates. If a bid bond is used, it shall be written by a surety or insurance company currently on the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service list of approved bonding companies which is published annually in the Federal Register, or by a Louisiana domiciled insurance company with at least an A-Rating in the latest printing of the A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide to write individual bonds up to ten percent (10%) of policyholders' surplus as shown in the A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide, or by an insurance company in good standing licensed to write bid bonds which is either domiciled in Louisiana or owned by Louisiana residents. The bid bond shall be issued by a company licensed to do business in Louisiana. The certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder shall execute the contract, should it be awarded to him, in conformity with the contract documents within ten (10) days.

No bidder may withdraw his bid for at least forty-five (45) days after the time scheduled for the opening of bids. Each bid shall be submitted only on the quotation form provided with the specifications.

Bids will be evaluated by the Purchaser based on the lowest responsible bid submitted which is also in compliance with the specifications. The Lafayette Consolidated Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids or any portions thereof, to waive informalities and to select the material that best suits its needs.

The Lafayette Consolidated Government strongly encourages the participation of DBEs (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) in all contracts or procurements let by the Lafayette Consolidated Government for goods and services and labor and material. To that end, all contractors and supplies are encouraged to utilize DBEs business enterprises in the purchase or sub-contracting of materials, supplies, services and labor and material in which disadvantaged business are available. Assistance in identifying said businesses may be obtained by calling 291-8410.

PURCHASING DIVISION LAFAYETTE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

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